# CALLS SCHOOLS **ALL FIRETRAPS**

Engineer Asserts New as Well as Old Buildings Are Menace.

FIRE ORDERS IGNORED

Precautions Demanded by

Money, He Asserts, Halts Changes.

Charles G. Armstrong, a consulting en-

He school buildings in the entire city have ing and took refuge in other dormitories, failed to comply with orders issued by the Fire Department directing additions and alterations that would make for the greater safety of the school children. It was learned that 275 public school buildings in Manhattan. The Bronx and Richmond alone show failure to comply with such orders.

#### Five Changes Ordered.

The orders were issued by the Bureau of Fire Prevention on November 9, 1912. several months after Mr. Armstrong in a report to the committee on school inquiry had referred in general terms to the danger to the 706,000 school children. The things which the bureau urged should be done were: (1) installation of interior fire alarms, (2) installation of direct telegraphic communication with Fire Headquarters, (3) more frequent fire drills, (4) the enclosing of stairways from the cellars to the floor above in fireproof material, with fireproof doors at the upper and lower ends thereof, (5) additional means of egress with doors leading outward, including, in many instances, fireproof enclosed staircases.

The Board of Education, it was said at the Bureau of Fire Prevention, has compiled with the minor and less expensive items of the orders, but it has failed to attend to the alterations that meant the outlay of much money.

The above facts and other information were obtained by Fire Commissioner Adamson, who recently started an investigation to ascertain what orders issued by alarms, (2) installation of direct tele-

Adamson, who recently started an investigation to ascertain what orders issued by his department prior to January 1 had not been obeyed up to that day. The failures to obey orders will be referred by Commissioner Adamson to the legal division within a few days and it is likely that a report may be made to Mayor Mitchel and that there may be a consultation with the leading members of the Board of Education for many years and during that time we have had fires and never lost a life. We have compiled with every that time we have had fires and never lost a life. We have compiled with every sioners and I am convinced that every possible safeguard surrounds the children to the complete with the Board of Education for many years and during motion pictures, bella Jason, Dar lost a life. We have compiled with every sioners and I am convinced that every possible safeguard surrounds the children.

### Parochial Schools Comply.

At the time the orders were issued to the public schools similar directions were sent to 116 parochial schools and forty private schools in the city. The parochial schools have for the most part attended to the alterations needed. In the last month Commissioner Adamson has been carrying on an active campaign against the private schools to make sure that no the private schools to make sure that no

violations exist in these buildings.
Further inquiry showed that the Board
of Education had failed to obey the instructions of the Fire Department in placing large fire extinguishers in certain schools. For instance, Mr. Armstrong in his article referred to the danger to chil-dren in Public School 62, a new structure, at Hester and Essex streets, which cost \$533.000 and seats 3.600 pupils, and to School 75, an old structure which adjoins and touches Public School 62. Mr. Armstrong pointed out that the boilers in No.
75 touch the ceiling of the basement and
furnish constant danger of fire.

Inquiry shows that orders were issued y the Fire Department for alterations and installation of precautions against re in both those buildings. Several of the minor items have been attended to, but the expensive ones have been neg-lected. The editor's preface to Mr. Arm-

strong's article points out that Mr. Armstrong is consulting engineer for the New York State Hospital Commission, for the New York State Department of Efficiency and Economy and for the Commissioner of Public Works of the Borough of Manhattan

### Total Lack of Precaution.

beginning his article Mr. Armstrong refers to the days when empty flour har-rels lined with mud were used for chim-ney stacks. "This well illustrates the polley nursued by those responsible for the building of the New York city public schools, he writes. "They have learned nothing by experience. The old buildings are fretrace—all of them—and deadly ones. The new structures also are fire-trape—all of them—if in a lesser degree.

If the city has not been plunged into grief and horror by a holocaust of its precious charges—that it has no been inflicted with the terrifying spectacle of hundreds of helpless little ones sacrificed in a fur-nace formed in a few moments, it is not be cause precautions have been taken against the possibility of such a catastrophe. It it because chance so far has favored us and because we have an extremely efficient Fig. Descriptor.

cient Fire Department.
"In an investigation of the public schools I visited about sixty or them and was shocked by the total lack of adequate of Trade: Alexander H. Hobb and Jesse are prevention methods in this, the most important branch of our city government. It is easy to understand why buildings twenty or thirty years of age should not be fireproof structures. It is easy to understand why buildings twenty or thirty years of age should not be fireproof structures. It is easy to understand why the exigencies of the problem of providing accommodations for the saver growing multitude of children require the school department to lease an old building which is not fireproof. What is absolutely incomprehensible is that the new buildings upon which the taxpayers' money has been lavished without stint should offer any possibility of danger from fire. Yet every one of them does."

Mr. Armstrong then cities a new school house in Curors, Queens absolutely fireproof in itself, and shows by a picture of the basement that the steam pipes on the floor are incased in wood. "There are two for the basement that the steam pipes on the floor are incased in wood. "There are two for the basement that the steam pipes on the floor are incased in wood. "There are two for the basement that the steam pipes on the floor are incased in wood. "There are two for the basement that the steam pipes on the floor are incased in wood. "There are two for the basement that the steam pipes on the floor are incased in wood. "There are two for the basement that the steam pipes on the floor are incased in wood. "There are two for the basement that the steam pipes on the floor are incased in wood. "There are two for the basement that the steam pipes on the floor are incased in wood. "There are two for the basement that the steam pipes on the floor are incased in wood. "There are two for the basement that the steam pipes on the floor are incased in wood. "There are two for the basement that the steam pipes on the floor are incased in wood. "There are two for the problem of the problem of the pipe in the floor problem of the problem

### BIG WELLESLEY DORMITORY **BURNS: 350 STUDENTS ESCAPE**

Ruin of Main Building Causes College to Close Till After Easter.

WELLESLEY, Mass., March 17 .- College Hall the main building of Wellesley College and one of the oldest of the group. was destroyed by fire early this mornin. Two hundred and fifty students fifty

instructors and fifty servants, who roomed in the building, were roused from their sleep and all marched out safely. That none of the 350 occupants was killed or inthe Prevention Bureau

Not Taken.

Not TRUE, SAYS MAXWELL

The girls lost nearly all their belongings. There was time only to grab a fur coat or other wrap. The loss to building and contents is estimated at \$900,000. President Ellen S. Pendleten announced that college would be closed until after the Easter recess.

Miss Virginia Moffat of 476 Main street, Orange, N. J., and Miss Charlotte Donneil were two of the heroines of the fire. Miss Moffat's room was on the third floor and faced a court.

faced a court.

#### Discovers the Fire.

She was awakened and saw the reflection of the fire on the transom of her room. She went into the hall and met Miss Donnell and told her that there was a fire. Miss Donnell said she would ring the fire alarm while Miss Moffat called the girls on the upper floors.

Miss Donnell ran down to the second floor and sounded the fire some while Miss Moffat called the girls on the upper floors.

Miss Donnell ran down to the second floor and sounded the fire some while Miss Moffat called the girls on the upper floors. She was awakened and saw the reflec-

The firemen of the village of Wellesley

entrance this was in flames and the line was turned toward the west exit, through which the escape was made. Miss Olive Davis, director of halls and residences, the last to leave the building.

soaked with oil." Mr. Armstrong says that "flames from the oil soaked lumber would cut off escape from other parts of the basement and the dense smoke would be drawn up by the ventilating syst m to the scholorom?" the schoolroms." He asserts that the

danger of panic is great and that two
fires recently did start in the engine rooms
of school houses.

Mr. Armstrong attacks the frequency of fire drills in cold weather, when the chil-dren must go out into the cold without

heating and ventilating engineer. Frank
G. McCann, a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Mr.
McCann's reason for the wood is that the
school houses are not used in the summertime and that a wood covering would not
rot away or be destroyed by rust as a
metal covering would. It amounts simply
to this," he continued: "The Board of
Education would be pleased to put in
metal doors, metal trimmings and the like
throughout the school buildings if the taxpayers would stand for the expense. That
expense would be 25 per cent. of the en"A Man With Twenty Widows" this week. Dolly Connolly is
singing songs composed by her partner.
Percy Wenrich, and the remainder of the
bill includes "On the School Playground,"
a musical skit: Howard's Animal Novelty.
John and Winnie Hennings, the Bison
Gordone and Guy J. Sampsell and Edith
Reilly.

"The Honeymoon Girls," with Phil Ott
and Alice Lazar heading a cast of unusual popular burlesque performers, are
presenting a new two act satire called
"A Man With Twenty Widows" this week.

"A Man With Twenty Widows" the week
at the Columbia Theatre. In addition to

"It is impossible for any such panic as William Hale, who recently assumed competition.

Mr. Armstrong describes to occur. Mr. Armstrong is a stranger in this city and troduced several pleasing vaudeville PLAY "THE THIEF" IN FRENCH. he has visited only about 10 per cent. he has visited only about 10 per cent.
of our school buildings. So far as panics
are concerned there is more danger from
the mothers outside, rushing into the
school, than from the children themselves.
Furthermore, we have never lost a life
in a public school in New York through a
fire."

President Thomas W. Churchill of the Board of Education did not wish to dis-cuss the charges made by Mr. Arn-strong except to refer to the lack of

### TO REDUCE ARSON LOSS.

Commissioner Adamson Names Com-

Fire Commissioner Robert W. Adamson, seeking to decrease the number of fire insurance policies obtained by persons planing to make money by arson, announced yesterday a committee of insurance men who will make a special study of the situation. He hopes that the committee will work out a scheme by which persons seeking insurance must give more information concerning themselves. He hopes also that the insurance companies will agree to exchange lists of risks.

Wednesday night.

SKINNER TO STAR IN "THE MOB."

New Galsworthy Play Will Be Seem

First in America.

John Galsworthy is to have his newest play, "The Mob," acted in America, with Otis Skinner in the chief part. An exchange of cable messages last night between Charles Frohman and Mr. Galsworthy, who is in Switzerland, closed the worthy, who is in Switzerland, closed the

hopes also that the insurance companies will agree to exchange lists of risks.

The members of the committee are Alfred E. Marling of the Chamber of Commerce; Frank R. Chambers, Merchants Association; Will'am P. Brinckerhoff, Merchants and Manufacturers Board of Trade; Alexander H. Hobb and Jesse I. Straus. New York Board of Trade and Transportation; Frank Lock, New York Board of Fire Underwriters, and Edmund Wright, New York Credit Men's Association.



MISS VIRGINIA MOFFAT. The Wellesley student who first discovered the flames and ran through the halls arousing the students.

Charles G. Armstrong, a consulting engineer, who made a study of the public genoot buildings for the committee on school inquiry, writes in Fire Prevention for March that every public school in New York city is a firetrap. He says specifically that he refers not only to the structures put up twenty years or more ago but to the newest and most modern buildings.

Mr. Armstrong points out many defects in the old buildings that have not been remedied with the advance in the science of fireproofing. Taking up the newest school buildings, he shows how the school buildings, he shows how the school buildings, he shows how the school buildings that are luffammable.

Investigation at Fire Headquarters and the Bureau of Fire Prevention revealed yesterday that 500 of the 600 or more public school buildings in the entire city have

morrow morning.

#### Telegraph for Money.

The college authorities and friends of the students in town provided many with money until their telegrams for funds could be answered. The firemen of the village of Wellesley were increased by the departments of Newton. Natick and Needham, but they were able to do little. The fire, starting, it is supposed, in the chemical laboratory on the fourth floor, ate its way to the roof quickly, spread the length of the building and then swept downward through the remaining floors.

By the time the head of the line of 350 women and girls reached the main entrance this was in flames and the line was turned toward the west exit, through

Miss Elizabeth Hartshorne, a senior at was turned toward the west exit, through which the escape was made.

Miss Olive Davis, director of halls and residences, the last to leave the building paid a special tribute to the bravery of the monitors and squad leaders who ran back to get the eight who had been left belind.

Miss Mary Smith of Westchester, Pa... secretary to the dean, Miss Alice Vinton

Miss Elizabeth Hartshorne, a sentor at Wellesley and daughter of Hugh Hartshorne, a broker living at J Bentley avenue, Jersey City, and Miss Lois Ward of the firm of Nelson & Ward, insurance brokers, living at 34 Kensington avenue, Jersey City, arrived at their homes last night. Miss Ward brought Miss Anna Roberts of Frankfort. Ky., and Miss Marian Mitchell of Philadelphia.

#### VAUDEVILLE AND BURLESQUE. Pleasing Bills Offered in the Week

Stands. Proctor's Fifth Avenue has this we Proctor's Fifth Avenue has this week
Anna Chandler, "The Telephone Langie."
a satire on the experiences of a telephone
operator: John and Mae Burke in "A
Ragtime Soldier," Spencer and Williams,
Frances Nordstrom and company with
Wikiam Pinkham in a sketch, "A Domestic Incident"; the Four Harveys, Wallace
Galvin, Lawton and Proctor's feature
comedy films.

Substitution to the third best
May 1. When all manuscripts must be in
The Evening Sun office, and awards will
be made by May 15.

The judges will be John Bunny and
Maurice Costello of the Vitagraph Company, the latter a producing director as
well as an actor: two experienced members of The Evening Sun staff and Edwin

motion pictures, George White and Isa-bella Jason, Darrell and Conway present-ing "Behind the Scenes," Stepp, Goodrich

sioners and I am convinced that every possible safeguard surrounds the children in the schools."

For a more technical answer to Mr. Armstrong's superintendent of school buildings. Mr. Snyder said in reply to Mr. Armstrong's general assertion:

"The man who made that statement should be indicted." In answer to questions he said: "The method of covering the steam pipes was approved by our heating and ventilating engineer, Frank G. McCann, a graduate of the Massa.

Tagues cockatoos.

The Alhambra th's week includes Virginia Harned and company in the Munter and Sam will. The conditions of the contest and suggestions as to the preparation of scenarios will appear from day to day in The Eventson of Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina." Kate Elinore and Sam will appear from day to day in The Eventson of Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina." Kate Elinore and Sam will appear from day to day in The Eventson of the contest and suggestions as to the preparation of scenarios will appear from day to day in The Eventson of Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina." Kate Elinore and Sam will appear from day to day in The Eventson of Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina." Kate Elinore and Sam will appear from day to day in The Eventson of the contest and suggestions as to the preparation of scenarios will appear from day to day in The Eventson of Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina." Kate Elinore and Sam will appear from day to day in The Eventson of Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina." Kate Elinore and Sam will appear from day to day in The Eventson of Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina." Kate Elinore and Sam will appear from day to day in The Eventson of Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina." Kate Elinore and Sam will appear from day to day in The Eventson of the contest and suggestions as to the preparation of scenarios will appear from day to day in The Eventson of Tolstoy's "Anna the includes Virginia Harned and company in the movie houses.

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The cond

expense would be 25 per cent. of the entire cost of the building. We have to
consider what the taxpayers will stand
for and consider our needs as based on
previous fires.

A Man With Twenty Widows' this week
the Columbia Theatre. In addition to
Mr. Ott and Miss Lazar the cast includes
Frank ...lliamson, Billy Inman, Nettie
Nelson and others.

numbers.

"The Taxi Girls," headed by Joe Fields and the Princess Luba ...eroff, are the attraction this week at Miner's Peoples Theatre on the Lowery. The cast includes Edna Green, Ward and Bohiman, Lynn Canter, Frank Harcourt, Charles Jansen and a large chorus.

Ben Welch is appearing at the Murray Hill this week in two one act pieces alled respectively "Cupid's Love Pill" and "Girls of the U. S. A." Mr. Welch's associates in the cast are Florence Rother, James Rosen, Emma O'Nell, Helen Dellaney, Frank Murphy, Pat Kearney and numbers

laney, Frank Murphy, Pat Kearney and Francis Martin. The added feature of the week at the Murray Hill is the "Song Boosters" Contest," which will occur

worthy, who is in Switzerland, closed the negotiations for the production of the play in this country before its presenta-

tion in Europe.
"The Mob," like "The Pigeon," "Jus-tice," "Joy" and "The Silver Box," is a





It will make you laugh at the world and with it; you will have the healthy feeling of having been sanely and cleverly entertained. Spend a quarter!

### "EVENING SUN" OFFERS \$1,350 FOR MOVIE PLAYS

Vitagraph Company Will Pro- well duce Them and Exploit the Authors.

THE EVENING Sun and the Vitagraph language.

Jose Ruben, as her husband, was admirable in the long and engrossing dia-Company announced yesterday a joint offer of \$1,350 for motion picture plays. For the best scenario submitted in the competition \$1,000 is offered; for the sec-

Galvin, Lawton and Proctor's feature comedy films.

Gertrude Hoffman is heading the bill at the Colonial this week. Other acts include Joe Welch in "A Study From Life," Mr and Mrs. Vernon Castle in motion pictures, George White and Isamotion pictures, George White and Isamotion pictures, George White and Isamotion pictures.

bella Jason, Darrell and Conway presenting "Behind the Scenes," Stepp, Coodrich and King, Knapp and Cornalia and Montagues cockatoos.

able they will also be staged in the Vitaing "Behind the Scenes," Stepp, Coodrich Broadway, Probably The Eventon Suntagues cockatoos.

Mason, Wilbur and Jordan.

Emma Carus is appearing at The
Bronx this week. Dolly Connolly is
singing songs composed by her partner,
Percy Wenrich, and the remainder of the
bill includes "On the School Playground,"
a musical skit; Howard's Animal Novelty,
John and Winnie Hennings, the Bison
City Four, the Pedersen Brothers, Robbie
Gordone and Guy J. Sampsell and Edith
Reilly.

"The Honeymoon Giris," with Phil Ott
and Alice Lazar heading a cast of un-Vitagraph Company are barred.

The Vitagraph Company suggests that each competitor should submit with his play an "ideal cast"—a complete list of the characters with some Vitagraph actor set down for each role.

The offer of \$1,000 first prize is the highest area made. highest ever made in a moving picture

### Mme. Yorska Shows Emotional Gifts In Bernstein's Play.

Richard Voysin Jose Ruben
Raymond Legarde Leo de Valery
Fernand Lagarde Paul Gordon
Marie Louise Voysin Mme Yorska laabelle Legarde ... Mme. Adont Foviert

its first season with a "gala" week under the eaves of the Century Theatre. The players have found a more or less permanent home in this aerial retreat after their experiences at the Harris and the Garrick

Last night Henry (not Henri as the pro-

gramme had it) Bernstein's most success-ful play, "Le Voieur," known so well here as "The Thief," was acted. A large and enthusiastic audience witnessed the play, it had never before been acted here in

riods of this French heroine who shattered the Eighth Commandment but showed an unconventional respect for the seventh division of the Decalogue well suited to her

mirable in the long and engrossing dia-logue of the second act.

This afternoon the French players will ond best, \$250, and for the third best. \$100. The contest will close at noon on May 1, when all manuscripts must be in THE EVENING SUN office, and awards will probably be made by May 15.

The judges will be John Bunny and Maurice Costello of the Vitagraph Company, the latter a producing discusses.



And Cuticura Ointment. They cleanse the scalp, remove dandruff, arrest falling hair and promote hair health when all else fails.

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PENNER Teacher of States

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BEW YORK COLLEGE OF MUSIC

# Easter Number MARCH 29

The Sunday Sun by its selection of material, its dressing of pages, its perfect art work and its pictorial printing casts all other Sunday newspapers into the shadow. The Sunday Sun has just finished a record breaking feat which has resulted in the most remarkable

# Easter Number

ever published. If you are a conservative or if you are an extremist you are sure to find several things to please you in the FORTY EXTRA

The Sun's Easter Number on March 29.

You are the person The Sun had in mind when the following sections were planned.

## A Splendid Fashion Section

This is really a sixteen page pictorial review of the new spring styles and is just what every woman wants. It saves you the worry and annoyance attendant upon the selection of your new gowns, for it takes in everything from the latest millinery creation to the daintiest shoe.

## The American History Section

Consists of eight pages containing reproductions of eight wenderful paintings by Howard Pyle dealing with Washington and the Revolution. These are printed by The Sun's Intaglio process from the originals, which are hanging in the Public Library in Boston, and each picture is well worth the price of a frame and a place in your home. The description of each picture was written by President Wilson.

# Picturesque New York Section

It takes a foreigner to point out to us the beauties of our city. H. Deville, the famous French artist, in four pages of exquisite etchings depicts interesting bits of the metroplis that you never thought existed, and they are all worth saving In this section there are also four pages of photographs which make you familiar with the likenesses of the real beauties of society.

# The Pictorial Magazine

Here is a section which contains a wide choice of subjects from which to select. There are eight pages of features which are of interest to all.

All these sections, printed on paper especially prepared, go to the making of the most remarkable

# EASTER NUMBER

ever published. So not to lose the opportunity order your copy from your newsdealer to-day and do not forget the date

MARCH 29